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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/520,262

01/05/2005

Jeong-Hwan Lee

21C-0177

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EXAMINER

DUDEK, JAMES A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2871

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DELIVERY MODE

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/520,262	Applicant(s) LEE ET AL.	
	Examiner /James A. Dudek/	Art Unit 2871	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 March 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2 and 5-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2 and 5-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 05 January 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-2 and 5-11 are under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kitagawa et al (US 2002/0054262) in view of US 5520855 A.

Kitagawa discloses a flat panel display device comprising: an image display part (LCD) for displaying an image by varying a voltage applied to electrodes (inherent features for LCD device) oppositely formed on inner surfaces of a pair of transparent facing substrate respectively to thereby turn on or off each pixel (inherent features for LCD device); and a protecting part (e.g., 12) disposed on an outer surface of the substrate.

The limitation not disclosed by Kitagawa is “the protecting part having a hardness of at least 2H so as to resist the external shock, and having a corrosion resistance so as to be cleaned by water or cleanser”.

855 teaches a protecting part having a hardness of at least 2H for achieving advantages such as resisting the external shock and corrosion. Therefore, it would have been at least obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to employ a protecting part having a hardness of at least 2H for achieving advantages such as resisting the external shock and corrosion.

The device of Kitagawa in view of 855 discloses the protecting part having a hardness of at least 2H (meeting the claimed invention) for achieving advantages such as resisting the external shock and corrosion, and thus, protecting a surface of the image display part from an external shock or foreign matters.

A liquid crystal display device includes liquid crystal interposed between the pair of transparent facing substrate.

Kitagawa discloses the liquid crystal display device comprising a lower polarizing plate and an upper polarizing plate disposed respectively on a lower surface and an upper surface of the liquid crystal display panel for polarizing light (see at least col. 5, [0059]).

Kitagawa discloses the liquid crystal display device comprising the use of suitable optical layers such as a diffusing plate, an antiglare film, a protecting plate disposed at suitable locations (see at least col. 5, [0061]). Further, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to employ each polarizing plate comprising a protecting plate (as disclosed by Kitagawa) for achieving advantages such as protecting polarizing plate optically and mechanically.

Kitagawa discloses that the suitable optical layers can be integrated with the polarizing plate (see at least col. 5, [0062]). Further, forming elements integrally (e.g., a polarizing plate and a diffusing plate, a protecting layer and an antiglare film) is at least a common goal and known in the art for achieving advantages such as cost-reduction, thin display device. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to employ the upper polarizing plate comprising glare and the protecting part comprising anti-glare, as disclosed by Kitagawa, and/or also known in the art (a common goal) for achieving advantages such as cost-reduction, thin display device.

Kitagawa discloses the flat panel display device comprising a protecting sheet (e.g., 12) adhered/laminated to/on the upper polarizing plate (e.g., 13).

Kitagawa discloses the flat panel display device comprising a phase compensating member (see at least col. 5, [0055]-[0057]) for inherently enhancing viewing angle or preventing light leakage at an edge portion of the liquid crystal display panel.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments are moot.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to /James A. Dudek/ whose telephone number is 571-272-2290. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Nelms can be reached on 571-272-1787. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/James A. Dudek/
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2871